

(c) selecting progeny seed of step (b) for those seeds containing increased levels of methionine compared to untransformed seeds.

32. (new) A method for increasing methionine content of the seeds of plants comprising:

- AI
GDD7.
- (a) transforming plant cells with the nucleic acid fragment of claim 30;
 - (b) growing fertile mature plants from the untransformed plant cells obtained from step (a) under conditions suitable to obtain seeds; and
 - (c) selecting progeny seed of step (b) for those seeds containing increased levels of methionine compared to untransformed seeds.

33. (new) A method for producing plant methionine synthase comprising:

- (a) transforming microbial host cells with the chimeric gene of Claim 19;
- (b) growing the transformed microbial cells obtained from step (a) under conditions that result in expression of the methionine synthase protein.

REMARKS

Claims 2-13 have been cancelled, and claims 14-35 have been added. This case is a continuation application under 37 CFR §1.53(b). The present application is a continuation of Application No. 09/377,431 filed on August 19, 1999 which is a continuation-in-part of Application No. 08/703,829 file August 27, 1996 (now abandoned) which claimed priority of provisional application number 60/002,973 filed August 30, 1995.

Support for new claims 14-35 can be found in the specification and claims as originally filed. Thus, now new matter has been added.

Enclosed herewith along with this Preliminary Amendment is an Information Disclosure Statement setting forth all references which had been cited by Applicants or the Examiner in connection with Serial No. 09/377,431 .

Please charge any fees which are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, Information Disclosure Statement and Petition for Extension of Time to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne M. Christenbury

Lynne M. Christenbury
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 30,971
Telephone: 302-992-5481

Enclosure